Secrets. II-27—100,000—21-5-48.

Public (Military) **(1947) Department.**

SERIES.

G.O. No. 3307

Dated 6.11.1947

Despatch Abstract.

Military - [illegible] - Anniversary Celebrations - 1947 - Suspension of work for two minutes in all Public Offices - Instructions issued.

Draft I

Public (Military) Department.

D.O.No.4353/47-3, dated 5-11-1947.

Military - Remembrance Day 1947 - 9th November 1947 - Firing of guns.

I am to say that His Excellency the Governor of Madras desires that on 9th November 1947, arrangements may be made to commemorate the Wars of 1914-1918 and of 1939-1945 in the same way as last year. I am therefore to request you to be good enough to make arrangements for a gun to be fired at 11 A.M. at Fort St. George as was done last year. A copy of the Press Communique which it is proposed to be issued is enclosed in case you have any suggestions or amendments to make regarding it especially with reference to any military arrangements. I will be grateful for an immediate reply.

Sd/-xxxxxx,
4-11-47.

To Brigadier D.J. Wilson Haffondon, CBE.,
Commander, H.Q., Madras
Sub-Area Fort St. George Madras
(with enclosure)

Draft II.

Public (Military) Department.

PRESS COMMUNIQUE NO.51 DATED 7-11-1947.

His Majesty the King has expressed the wish that in order to commemorate this year the Wars of 1914-1918 and of 1939-1945, there should be a complete cessation of all normal business throught India during a two minutes' silience commencing at 11 A.M. on Sunday, the 9th November 1947. Rail, water and air transport will not be suspended. In order that the ceremony may be synchronized throughout India, the Government of India have suggested that 11 A.M. Railway time should be adopted everywhere for the commencement of the silence. Should any public offices be working, there will be a complete suspension of work during the two minutes and it is hoped that all local authorities and heads of firms and business houses will as far as possible make similar arragements.

2. A signal will be given by a gun from Fort St. George, Madras, at 11 A.m. on the 9th November 1947. A second gun will be fired from the Fort ramparts at 11-02 A.M. To enable the public and Church authorities to synchronize their time a gun will be fired in the morning at 9 0' clock. Ecclesiastical authorities have been requested to arrange that chrch bells should be rung for five minutes coasing exactly at 11 A.M. unless the ringing of the bells would disturb a service in pregress. The Manager of the Madras Electric Tramways has been requested to arrange for the stopping of trams and the police will stop other traffic in the streets. It is hoped that in all offices, shops and other places of business a complete suspension of work will be observed.

3. The signal gun will be fired from the Ramparts of Fort St. George below the Flag Staff where detachments all units stationed in Fort St. George will also parade at 1100 hours. It would be appropriate if any ex-servicemen who wish to observe REMEMBRANCE DAY in an especial way, should meet on the Marina in

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in front of the Flag Staff. During the two minutes silence the Flag will be flown at Half mast in memory of the gallant Indian Soldiers who laid down their lives.

4. It is also hoped that for any ceremony in connection wit the Remembrance Day all ex-service officers and men and members of Nursing Service and other Women's Services will mark the Occasion by wearing with civilian dress, medals and decorations awarded to them. Holders of War Medals and decorations awarded tc relatives of deceased soldiers, etc. have permission to wear them on the right breast.

5. Poppy Day collections will be made on Monday the 10th-November 1947.

Draft III.

Public (Military) Department.

Memo. No4353/47-4, dated 5-11-1947.

Military - Remembrance Day - 9th November 1947 - Celebration.

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His Majesty the King has expressed the wish that on 9th November 1947, in order to commemorate the Wars of 1914-1918 and 1939-1945, there should be a complete cessation of all normal business throughout India during a two minutes' silence commencing at 11 A.M. Rail water and air transport will not however be suspended. The Government of India is confident that officials and non-officials alike will co-operate in giving effect to His Majesty's wishes. In orderthat the ceremony should be synchronized throughout India it has been suggested that 11 A.M. Railway time should be adopted everywhere for the commencement of the silence

2. The Collectors of districts are informed that they should request the Ministers of all Christial denominations to make a special collection for ex-servicemen's funds during the Service on that day.

3. It is hoped that for any ceremony arranged on the day all ex-service officers and men and members of the nursing service and other women's service will mark the oceasion by wearing with vivilian dress and medals and decorations that have been awarded to them. Relatives of deceased soldiers, sailors and airmen to whom decorations and war medals were awa ded are p rmitted to wear such medals on the right breast.

Sd/-xxxxxxx,
41-11-1947.

To all Collectors.
(with an advance copy of Press communique)

Draft IV

Memo. No.4353/47-5, dated 5-11-1947.

Military - Remembrance Day - 9th November 1947 Celebration.

An advance copy of a Press Communique which is being issued on the celebration of the Remembrance Day on the 9th November 1947 is forwarded to Rt.Rev. the Bishop of Madras. Senior Chaplain, Church of Scotland, Madras. Arrangements may be made to ring the Church bells (unless this would distrub any serviee) in all the Churches under his control, and to make a

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Draft VII.

Letter No.4353/47-8, dated 5-11-1947.

To

Rev.G.P.Gibbens,"Wesley House", Ritherdon Road, Vepery, Madras.
The Secretary.Telugu Church Council, Tadpatri, Anantapur Dt.
The Secretary, North Tamil Church Council, Avanashi, Coimbatore
The Secretary Madras Church Council, Viruthampet, via Katpadi, North Arcot District.
The Secretary Kanarese church council, Brucepet, Bellary.
The Secretary Malabar Church Council, Calicut, Malabar.

(each with 5 colies of Press Communique)

Sir,

Military - Remembrance Day - 9th November 1947- Celebration.

I am directed to forward herewith five copies of a Press Communique which is being issued on the subject of the celebration of the Remembrance Day on the 9th November 1947. I am to request that you will be good enough to make arrangements for bells to be rund in all the Churches under your control, unless this would disturb any service, and for a special collection to be made for ex-service men's funds on that day.

Sd/-xxxxxxx,
4-11-1947.

Draft VIII.

Letter No.4353/47-9, dated 5-11-1947.

To

The Manager,
Madras Electric Tramways Ltd., Madras.*

*with a copy of Press Communique)

Sir,

Military - Remembrance Day - 9th November 1947- Celebration.

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I am directed to enclose an advance copy of a Press communique which is being issued on the subject of the celebration of the Remembrance Day on the 9th November 1947 and to request that you will be good enough to issue orders to ensure the stopping of all trams for two minutes at 11 A.M. by Railway time on that day.

Sd/-xxxxxxxxxxx,
4-11-1947

Draft IX.

Memo No. Dated.

Press Communique regarding Remembrance Day on 9th November1947.

It is proposed to issue a Press Communique on the above subject in the Fort St. George Gazette on the Sixth November 1947. An advance copy of the draft communique is sent to the Superintendent, Government Press. He is requested to publish the Press Communique in the Fort St. George Gazette Extraordinary

P.T.O.

on the Sixth November 1947 and distribute copies with reference to G.O.No.1737, Public (General), dated the 6th August 1945 of that day but not before.

Sd/-xxxxxx,
4-11-1947.

To the Superintendent, Government Press, Madras with copy of the draft Press Communique.